

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 DOTE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 TRSE-00 AID-05 /030 W

-----051806Z 018162 /40

P R 051317Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 912

INFO USDOC WASHDC

AMCONSUL IBADAN

AMCONSUL KADUNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BENC, ELTN, NI

SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECT: RAILROAD: OVERALL ROUND-UP

REF: (A) STATE 97051 (B) STATE 97516 (C) LAGOS 4523

1. PER REFTEL A, EMBASSY ARRANGING APPOINTMENT OF GLYNN OF TAMS WITH PERMSEC IBIE FOR AFTERNOON MAY 12 THROUGH NEW DEP. SECT. (LAND) SOATAN.

2. PER REFTEL B, EMBOFF LEARNED STATUS RAILWAY PROJECT FROM B. U. SESHADRI, GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR RAILWAYS, MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT REFTEL C, PARTIALLY CORRECT IN ASSERTING CONTRACTS FOR SECTIONS 5 AND 8 ALREADY LET. CONTRACT FOR SURVEY, MAPPING, DESIGN SECTION 5 LET TO FOUGEROLLE OF FRANCE. CONTRACT FOR SAME SERVICES SECTION 8 LET TO ITALRACO OF ITALY. TENDERS BY TAMS, SOFERAIL, ITALCONSULT, TRANSMARK AND GERMAN FIRM FOR SURVEY OF TRAFFIC GROWTH IN SECTIONS 5 AND 8 NOW UNDER REVIEW BUT NO DECISION. CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS WILL BE LET FOR 5 AND 8 FOLLOWING COMPLETION AFOREMENTIONED STAGES.

3. SESHADRI NEXT TURNED TO PLANS FOR NEAR FUTURE. SECTION 6

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FROM MAKURDI TO BAUCHI ASSIGNED PRIORITY AND NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR SURVEY, MAPPING AND DESIGN. THIS SECTION NEEDED TO MOVE COKING COAL FROM LAGIA TO AJEOKUTA STEEL MILL. IF FINANCING NOT AVAILABLE, LINE WILL ONLY GO 100 MILES TO LAFIA STOPPING FAR SHORT OF MAKURDI.

4. IN MORE DISTANT FUTURE, SESHARDI FEELS SECTIONS 1, WN EN

4, AND 7 MIGHT BE ATTEMPTED NEXT FIVE YEAR PLAN. OTHERSPOSSIBILITY IS TO OPEN NEW AREA, I.E., NOT CURRENTLY SERVED BY NARROW GUAGE WITH STANDARD GUAGE LINE. EXISTING NARROW GUAGE SYSTEM WOULD BE CONVERTED IN STAGES TO CONNECT WITH NEW STANDARD GUAGE NETWORK. SESHARDI SAID THIS ALTERNATIVE MIGHT BE ANALYZED BY INDIAN FIRM BUT SINCE DECISION NOT FINAL HE COULD NOT CONFIRM THIS TO BE RITES AS ALLUDED IN PARA 1 REFTEL B.

5. COMMENT: NEW HEAD NIGERIAN RAILWAY CORP. AND APPARENT CALING DOWN SCOPE OF UPGRADING PROPOSAL COULD MEAN FMG FINALLY SERIOUS ABOUT PROJECT WHICH HAS BEEN JUST AROUND CORNER FOR TWO YEARS. UNFORTUNATELY, IT WOULD EXCLUDE THOSE PROJECTS FOR WHICH U.S. TENDERED SUCH AS SECTIONS 3 AND 4 BY RBC OR SWITCHING AND SIGNALING BY FORD AERONEUTRONICS. PLS BRIEF GLYNN OF TAMS ON FOREGOING.
EASUM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSTRUCTION, RAILROADS, CONTRACTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LAGOS05062
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770158-0414
Format: TEL
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770590/aaaadadz.tel
Line Count: 78
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 897d179a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 97051, 77 STATE 97516, 77 LAGOS 4523
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2633126
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MAJOR PROJECT: RAILROAD: OVERALL ROUND-UP
TAGS: BENC, ELTN, NI
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbs://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/897d179a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009